HOUSE BILL 1731 By Sands

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 21, relative to disabled persons.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-21-110(a)(1), is amended by deleting the subdivision in its entirety and by substituting instead the following language:

(1) A volunteer appointed under this section shall be a resident of the city, county or metropolitan government in which the volunteer program operates. The volunteer program shall be open to any person twenty-one (21) years of age and older, regardless of such person's disability status; provided, however, preference shall be given to an applicant with a disability.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-21-110(b), is amended by deleting all of the language before the colon and substituting instead the following:

Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, any county having a population of more than thirty thousand (30,000) according to the 1990 federal census or any subsequent federal census may establish a special enforcement unit for the sole purpose of providing adequate enforcement of §55-21-108 and local ordinances and resolutions relative to disabled parking, pursuant to the following provisions:

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-21-110(b)(2), is amended by deleting the second sentence and substituting instead the following:

30987022

003186

30987022 *00318624*

A member of the special enforcement unit shall not be considered to be a law enforcement officer and shall not make an arrest in the course of the member's official duties, but shall wear a distinctive piece of clothing such as a jacket, shirt, vest and/or hat with a law enforcement insignia along with a badge while on duty.

Tennessee Code Annotated, 55-21-110(b)(2), is further amended by deleting the third sentence and substituting instead the following:

The local authority or administrating agency may issue a communication device such as a police radio, citizens band radio, or cellular telephone to each member of the special enforcement unit for use while on duty;

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-21-103, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

- (g) The department shall issue to any person with a disabled license plate and/or placard a clear-coated and color-coded sticker to be affixed to the lower, left-hand side of the backside of such person's driver license in the following scheme:
 - (1) A disabled person to whom a disabled license plate and/or placard has been registered shall receive a blue-coded sticker; and
 - (2) A person who is a parent, spouse, dependent, relative or professional advocate and is responsible for the transportation of a disabled person shall receive a red-coded sticker.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 1997, the public welfare requiring it.

- 2 - *00318624*